

Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution



Patriot of the Month

May 2016



Charles T. Pease

Sponsored by:

Ozark Spring Chapter



LTC Charles Pease entered the Army at Ft. Benning, Georgia, in 1956. His training over the years included Army Primary Flight Training School, Helicopter School, Instructor Flight Training School, Basic and Advanced Officer Infantry Course, and Command and General Staff College. He served as an Army pilot and Operations Director on two tours in Vietnam, the first being from November 1966 to November 1967 and again from June 1969 to June 1970. He flew Army choppers including the Huey and some fixed wing aircraft.

LTC Pease first tour in the Republic of Viet Nam was on a rubber plantation with an assault helicopter company. The mission, as part of the 52nd Helicopter Battalion, was to support isolated special forces groups and the Fourth Infantry Division. This consisted transporting troops, supplies, and equipment around the battlefield as needed. Also planning and executing combat in conjunction with the ground commanders. The second tour was commanding an assault helicopter company with the 101st Division and as assistant battalion commander.

Charles last tour was probably the most unique of his career. He served in a military group in Iran, leaving in 1974 before the Shah was deposed. The Shah gave Charles and his wife first class tickets to fly home. They traded the first class tickets in for economy class and took the long way home traveling to India and Hong Kong. They celebrated a 4th of July at a lake in northern India singing patriot American songs while some British shouted, "Bully."

While in the Army, Charles was awarded the Master Army Aviation Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with one silver service star, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Air Medals, Distinguished Flying Cross, Legion of Merit, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with palm, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Bronze Star, Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Medal Unit Citation and Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with silver star.

Upon retirement Charles raised cattle, Scotch pine Christmas trees, and hardwood. He has been actively involved with the Vietnam Helicopter Association, was a board member of the Oregon County Ambulance Association, and a member of both Masonic and Shriners Clubs.

Charles or "Chuck" as his friends call him, is the husband of Ozark Spring Chapter DAR member Mary Lee Pease. They have two children, a son, and a daughter.

The Daughters of the Ozark Spring Chapter DAR are proud to nominate Charles T. Pease as Patriot of the Month and extend their gratitude for his patriotic service and commitment to our great nation.